

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of :  
Klaus STOCKEMANN et al. : Group Art Unit: 1617  
Serial No.: 09/392,728 : Examiner: H. Nguyen  
Filed: September 9, 1999 :  
For: **COMBINATION CONTRACEPTIVE, KITS THAT CONTAIN THE LATTER,  
AND A METHOD THAT USES THE LATTER**

#5  
HKO  
10/26/00

**RESPONSE**

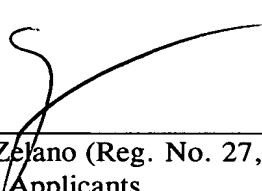
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of August 15, 2000, applicant's hereby elect Las defined on page 2 of the office action, with traverse. In addition, applicants also elect species A(i)(2) and B(vi)(1) from pages 3 and 4 of the office action, with traverse.

The claimed invention is a unitary one reciting the two described phases. The examiner has not established that there would be any searching burden in including both the combination and method claims in a single examination. Similarly, peace meal examination of individual species is inappropriate for unitary inventions such as those claimed herein.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney for Applicants

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**Filed: October 16, 2000**

**SCH-1550 C1**

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